



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH
APRIL 2010

WHEREAS, autism is a neurological disorder affecting the functioning of the brain, resulting in significant impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal, nonverbal and reciprocal communication; and

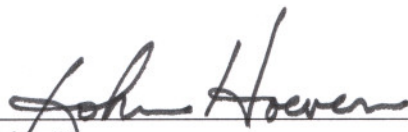
WHEREAS, autism is the third most common developmental disability, affecting 1.5 million individuals nationwide and 4,000 individuals in the state; and

WHEREAS, although a cure for autism has not been found, persons with autism can be helped to reach their greatest potential through accurate, early diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education and intervention; and

WHEREAS, autism has wide-ranging implications for the entire family of the diagnosed individual, and early diagnosis, research, training, education and therapies are important to reducing the effects of autism; and


WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to increase their awareness and understanding of this complex disability to ensure that individuals with autism are accurately diagnosed and effectively treated throughout their lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2010, **AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.



John Hoeven
Governor

ATTEST:



Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State